

REMARKS

The examiner is thanked for a thorough examination of the present patent application. Further, the applicant thanks the examiner for discussing the Claims in an interview held on Wednesday, December 15, 2004.

All 16 Claims were rejected under 35 USC 102(a) as being unpatentable over various combination of Miller (U.S. Patent No. 6,311,138), Wiggers (U.S. Patent No. 5,397,981), Gauland (U.S. Patent No. 6,571,185), and Norton (U.S. Patent No. 4,592,077). The applicant traverses the rejections. Nonetheless, per the Examiner Interview, the applicant currently amends, without prejudice, Independent Claims 1, 8, and 15 thereby overcoming the currently cited art as discussed with the examiner.

In view of the foregoing Amendments, Remarks, and the discussion of the interview, the applicant respectfully submits that the entire application is in condition for allowance, and an indication to that effect is respectfully requested at the examiner's earliest convenience.

Respectfully submitted,



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